



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2005

Contact: Clay Clifton 858-495-5579
Richard Haas 619-338-2070

GENERAL ADVISORY EXTENDED TO ALL COUNTY COASTAL WATERS; CLOSURES FOR SOUTH BEACHES

RAIN BRINGS URBAN RUNOFF AND TIJUANA RIVER FLOWS TO SOUTH COUNTY BEACHES

The Department of Environmental Health has extended the General Advisory to all San Diego County beaches following rain this morning. Swimmers, surfers, and other ocean users are warned that the levels of bacteria can rise significantly in ocean and bay waters, especially near storm drains, creeks, rivers, and lagoon outlets that discharge urban runoff. While many coastal storm drains within San Diego County are permanently posted with white metal warning signs, additional temporary warning signs are not posted for General Advisories. Activities such as swimming, surfing and diving should be avoided for 72 hours following rain. This includes all ocean beaches as well as Mission Bay and San Diego Bay.

Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge and Border Field Park

The Department of Environmental Health has issued a water contact closure for the ocean shoreline at the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge and Border Field Park due to sewage-contaminated flows from the Tijuana River entering the United States. Signs will remain in place until sample results indicate the ocean water is safe for recreational use.

For updates on beach closure information please call the 24-hr. hotline at (619) 338-2073.

OR www.cleanup.org enter your zip code and select Beach Water Quality

##